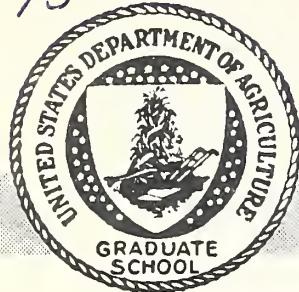


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# Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

MAR 11 1957

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

To the Faculty, Committee Members and  
others associated with the Graduate School:

May this Christmas be one of the best of all the years and bring a full flow of happiness and good cheer to each and all of you. We can be happy in the achievements of the passing year.

1957 is full of bright promises. I wish that it may bring to you the kind of satisfactions and successes you may wish along with the blessing of good health and an always full pocketbook.

\* \* \*

The spring semester is just around the corner. Registration starts on February 2, 1957. No doubt there are many who would be interested in courses offered by the Graduate School who have not heard about them. We would like you to help us get these people on the list of those we send course schedules.

If you know of individuals who might be interested, please give us their names. If there are organizations or groups who would be interested in a particular course or courses, please give us that information.

Our desire is tell all in this area who want to continue their education while they work about the opportunities in the Graduate School.

"No phenomenon is a clearer mark of our present age than that of the resurgent Asia. Here half a dozen major civilizations, among the great cultural experiences of mankind, are declaring themselves anew. Your student will live his effective life in a crowded world of these conflicting cultures all differently patterned from his own. No educational experience is more important for him than that of a meeting of minds with ways of thinking quite outside the Graeco-Judaean-Christian tradition, yet fully as sympathetic with what modern science tells us of the physical world. Almost no Americans have this experience in the course of formal education; we have hardly even yet learned how to present it. Every college administrator, whether he knows it or not, now has on his desk the problem of squeezing Asia -- or perhaps I should say the non-West-European world -- into his already overcrowded curriculum."

That observation comes from an article by Mortimer Graves, executive director of the American Council of Learned Societies, in the summer (1956) issue of THE ACLS NEWSLETTER.

I was reminded of it, November 30, when I received a letter from Esson M. Gale, who

is to give the course, The United States and Asia, formerly taught by the late Nelson T. Johnson, Dr. Gale has had a distinguished career in the foreign service. For the past 12 years, he has served as head of the International Center at the University of Michigan. Now that he has been made director emeritus of the Center, he is moving to Washington and we were fortunate to obtain him for our staff.

\* \* \*

We've been hearing a great deal from college presidents and other officials in education -- in our faculty luncheon series -- about the financial support, type of organization, and teaching procedures needed in our schools and colleges over the next 20 years. Our most recent speaker in this series turned our attention to another aspect of this subject--the goal of this education.

Mrs. Agnes E. Meyer, distinguished writer who spoke at the faculty luncheon, December 4, sees the problem of education and of life itself as one of continuous re-adaptation.

"The young people in school must not be trained, as in the past, for vocations that can become obsolete by the time they finish high school or college. Nor will a return to the good old days of the 3 R's and the liberal arts prepare them for a world of rapid and perpetual change whose far reaching effects nobody can wholly envisage. Subject matter is important only as it opens up new vistas of thought. The learning of this or that or the other subject is less important than methods of learning that will lead to the desire for continual learning and the ability to carry it on with critical judgment.

"A flexible adaptable mind is, of course, a free mind." Mrs. Meyer, whose subject was "How Free Are American Freedoms?", emphasized the fact that greater freedom of mind is now needed by our school children to fortify themselves for their responsibilities in a changing world. She said "This calls for the development of attitudes of curiosity, weighing of evidence, and dispassionate scientific outlook and inquiry."

\* \* \*

We have a new member of the General Administration Board in Ernest C. Betts Jr., who on December 2 became Director of Agriculture's Office of Personnel. He succeeds the late MacHenry Schafer.

Mr. Betts has served as an assistant to Secretary Benson for the past three years. He has been in government service for nearly 18 years. His career, which began in January 1939 with the Soil Conservation Service, includes work with USDA's Office of Budget and Finance, and the Library. In 1950 he transferred to the Department of State, first as chief of its estimates branch in the Division of Budget and then attache for administration in the U. S. Embassy, Beirut, Lebanon. In addition to directing the embassy's administrative and personnel programs in Lebanon, he developed organization and personnel requirements for this country's foreign aid program in Pakistan. In 1953, Mr. Beets served as assistant controller in the Technical Cooperation Administration.

Mr. Betts, who is a native of Sparta, Wisconsin, received his advanced education at Platteville, Wisconsin State Teachers College and the Vernon County Normal School, Viroqua, Wisconsin. He is a former member of the Arlington county school board.

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Stamp collectors on the faculty should get in touch with George A. Young, who teaches our correspondence course in Administration and Supervision.

Over the next few months, Mr. Young will be getting mail from all over the world as the 275 students (in State, U.S.I.A. and I.C.A.) who have enrolled for the course begin to mail in lessons.

This large registration, arranged through a contract with the Department of State, U.S.I.A. and I.C.A. represents a milestone in our small correspondence program. It is good evidence that along with our other activities -- the afterhours courses, lecture series, and cooperative programs with other universities -- the correspondence program is serving the changing needs and interests of Federal employees.

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"Mexican Assignment", by J. K. McClaren is scheduled for publication in February, according to Funk & Wagnalls, the publishers. This book for teen-agers tells the story of the campaign against foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico through the experiences of a young veterinarian from the United States and his Mexican counterpart. The fictional account is based on actual events, which Mr. McClaren helped to record as information officer for the Bureau of Animal Industry at the time of the outbreaks.

### AMONG OURSELVES

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Malone announce the birth of Richard Lawrence on December 8. Mrs. Malone is the former registrar of the Graduate School.

We lost a popular instructor this month when Frank Dance, who has taught courses in Speech, both in the Graduate School proper and the NIH Center, completed his military service and returned to school. Next semester he will be at Northwestern at work on his doctorate and at the same time he will have a teaching post in one of the schools in the Chicago area. Mr. Dance's review of a new book in his field, "Broadcasting: Television and Radio", appears in the December 1956 issue of SPEECH TEACHER.

C. C. Hearne and O. B. Conaway, Jr., reviewed the cooperative program in training foreign nationals in public administration that the Graduate School and the Foreign Agricultural Service of USDA have conducted during the past year and a half at a meeting of training officers in USDA, December 12.

Assistant Director O. B. Conaway, Jr., represented the Graduate School at the fourth annual conference on executive development held by the Society for Personnel Administration at Big Meadows Lodge in Shenandoah Park, Virginia, November 9-11.

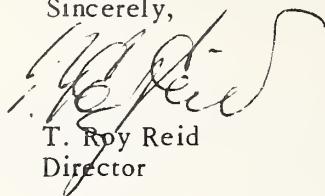
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Martin Kriesberg, who took the post held by Assistant Director O. B. Conaway, Jr., in Jerusalem as consultant to the Government of Israel on a public administration program in the Hebrew University, has with his family been evacuated to Rome.

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O. B. Conaway, Jr., drew on his experiences during six months in Israel under the auspices of the United Nations, to discuss the Middle East crisis before the weekly student assembly at the State Teachers College, Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Roy Reid".

T. Roy Reid  
Director